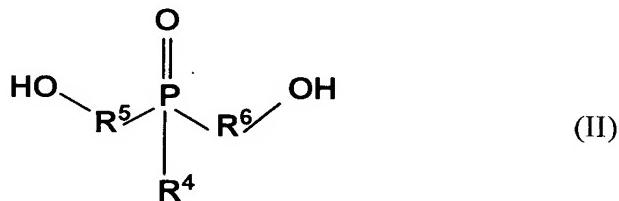


AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the specification at page 4, line 16 through page 5, line 8 with the following amended text:

and

x and y each independently represents a number from 1 to 50,



wherein:

R¹: represents

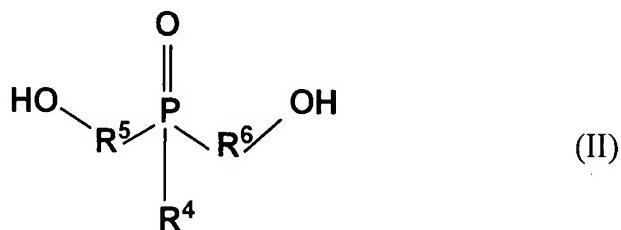
R⁴: represents a hydrogen atom, a branched or unbranched alkyl radical having 1 to 24 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl radical having 6 to 20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl radical having 6 to 30 carbon atoms, or a substituted or unsubstituted alkaryl radical having 6 to 30 carbon atoms;

R² and R³: may be

R⁵ and R⁶: may be the same or different, and each independently represents a branched or unbranched alkylene radical having 1 to 24 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted arylene radical having 6 to 20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkylene radical having 6 to 30 carbon atoms, or a substituted or unsubstituted alkarylene radical having 6 to 30 carbon atoms;

Please replace the specification on page 11, lines 11-25 with the following amended text:

Compounds which are preferably employed as a phosphine oxide are those which correspond to the general formula (II):



wherein:

R⁴: represents

R⁴: represents a hydrogen atom, a branched or unbranched alkyl radical having 1 to 24 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl radical having 6 to 20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl radical having 6 to 30 carbon atoms, or a substituted or unsubstituted alkaryl radical having 6 to 30 carbon atoms;

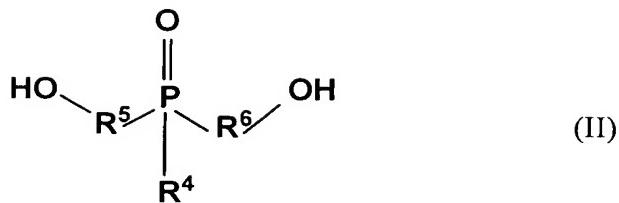
R² and R³: may be

R⁵ and R⁶: may be the same or different, and each independently represents a branched or unbranched alkylene radical having 1 to 24 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted arylene radical having 6 to 20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkylene radical having 6 to 30 carbon atoms, or a substituted or unsubstituted alkarylene radical having 6 to 30 carbon atoms.

Please replace the specification on page 15, lines 5-20 with the following amended text:

and

x and y each independently represents a number from 1 to 50;



wherein:

R¹: represents

R⁴: represents a hydrogen atom, a branched or unbranched alkyl radical having 1 to 24 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl radical having 6 to 20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl radical having 6 to 30 carbon atoms, or a substituted or unsubstituted alkaryl radical having 6 to 30 carbon atoms;

R² and R³: may be

R⁵ and R⁶: may be the same or different, and each independently represents a branched or unbranched alkylene radical having 1 to 24 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted arylene radical having 6 to 20 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkylene radical having 6 to 30 carbon atoms, or a substituted or unsubstituted alkarylene radical having 6 to 30 carbon atoms.